

# **City of Taunton**

## **Fats Oil and Grease (FOG) Control Program**

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## **I. Introduction**

The City has retained responsibility for the FOG control program. The City has the legal authority to enforce its FOG ordinances and regulations. The City is also responsible for enforcement of its FOG programs. This includes a regular program for inspecting grease producing facilities. The City and VVNA are working cooperatively to identify and correct FOG problems. Through its emergency and normal collection system maintenance, VVNA identifies FOG problems and sends a report to the City describing the problem, the needed corrective action and recommends a prevention action.

VVNA is developing a list of "Hot Spots". These are places in the sanitary collection system that require more frequent monitoring and cleaning. The Hot Spots are often caused by FOG problems. VVNA will update the list on a monthly basis and provide a copy to the City. The Hot Spots will be analyzed and targeted for capital improvements.

## **II. Objectives**

The objectives of this program are:

1. To prevent the introduction of pollutants into the wastewater system which will interfere with the operation of the system or contaminate the resulting sludge;
2. To prevent the introduction of pollutants into the wastewater system which will pass through the system, without adequate treatment, into receiving waters or the atmosphere;
3. To improve the opportunity to recycle and reclaim wastewaters, sludges, gases and other by-products from the system;
4. To provide for equitable distribution of the cost of the wastewater system;
5. To prevent sanitary sewage overflows as a result of grease obstructions that subject the City to adverse health issues, prevents service continuance, civil suits and diminish its storm water quality;
6. To reduce the loading from excessive grease at the City's POTW and lift stations and prevent the expense of its removal, and NPDES permit violations; and
7. To comply with the Administrative Consent Order as issued to the City of Taunton in April 2005 from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The ACO includes establishing a Sanitary Sewer Overflow Plan of which a Fats, Oils and Grease Control Plan is a requirement.

This plan provides for the regulation of direct and indirect contributors to the wastewater system through the issuance of permits to certain non-domestic users and through enforcement of general requirements for the other users, authorizes monitoring and enforcement activities, requires user reporting, assumes that existing user's capacity will not be preempted, and provides for the setting of fees for equitable distribution of costs resulting from the program established in this plan.

This plan shall apply to the City and to persons outside the City who are, by contract or agreement with the City, users of the City publicly owned treatment works (POTW).

Except as otherwise provided, the City DPW Commissioner, City Plumbing Inspector, Board of Health and the City's designees at the POTW shall administer, implement and enforce the provisions of the plan.

### **III. Definitions**

For purposes of this plan, the following words, phrases and abbreviations shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section unless the context specifically indicates otherwise.

A. Abbreviations. As set forth in this plan, the following abbreviations shall have the designated meanings:

BOD Biochemical oxygen demand  
BMP Best Management Practice(s)  
CFR Code of Federal Regulations  
COD Chemical oxygen demand  
FOG Fats, Oils, Grease  
EPA Environmental Protection Agency  
l Liter  
mg Milligrams  
mg/l Milligrams per liter  
NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
POTW Publicly owned treatment works  
SIC Standard Industrial Classification  
SS Suspended solids  
SWDA Solid Waste Disposal Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901, et seq.  
USC United States Code

B. "Act" or "the Act" means the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251, et seq.

C. "Applicant" means any person who applies for sewer service or a wastewater discharge permit.

D. "Authorized Inspector" means an inspector so designated by the City DPW Commissioner.

E. "Authorized representative of industrial user" means:

1. A principal executive officer of at least the level of vice-president, if the industrial user is a corporation;
2. A general partner or proprietor if the industrial user is a partnership or proprietorship, respectively;
3. A duly authorized representative responsible for the overall operation of the facilities from which the indirect discharge originate

F. “Best Management Practice(s)” means a cultural or engineering technique, or a management strategy, that has been determined and accepted to be an effective and practical means of preventing or reducing non-point source pollution in a local area.

G. “Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)” means the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure, five (5) days at 20 degrees centigrade expressed in terms of weight and concentration (milligrams per liter (mg/l)).

H. “Building sewer.” (See “lateral”)

I. “Categorical Standards” means the National Categorical Pretreatment Standards or Pretreatment Standard.

J. “City” means the City of Taunton.

K. “City DPW Commissioner” means the City of Taunton Department of Public Works Commissioner or said Commissioner’s designee or representative.

L. “Commercial garbage/Food grinder” means the mechanical unit for pulverizing wastes before discharging into the public sewer system by a commercial user.

M. “Cooling water” means the water discharges from any use such as air conditioning, cooling or refrigeration, or to which the only pollutant added is heat.

N. “Council” means the City Council of the City.

O. “Customer” means any person, firm, association, corporation or governmental agency served or entitled to be served by the City, for or without compensation.

P. “Developer” means any person who requests that the Council extend the City's sewage collection facilities.

Q. “Direct discharge” means the discharge of treated or untreated wastewater directly to the waters of the Commonwealth.

R. “Environmental Protection Agency,” or “EPA,” means the United States Environmental Protection Agency or, where appropriate, the term may also be used as a designation for the Administrator or other duly authorized official of said agency.

S. “FOG” (“Fats”, “Oils”, “Grease”) means organic polar compounds derived from animal and/or plant sources that contain multiple carbon chain triglyceride molecules. These substances are detectable and measurable using analytical test procedures established in the United States Code of Federal Regulations 40 CFR 136, as may be amended from time to time.

T. “Food Handling Facility,” or “FHF,” includes, but is not limited to, any facility preparing and/or serving food for commercial use or sale. This includes restaurants, cafés, lunch counters, cafeterias, hotels, hospitals, convalescent homes, factory or school kitchens, catering kitchens, bakeries, grocery stores with food preparation and packaging, meat cutting and preparation (excluding grocery stores with only food warming operations), meat packing facilities and other food handling facilities not listed above where fats, oil and grease may be introduced into the community sewer system and cause line blockages and sewer overflows. This is also known as a process of concern.

U. “Grab sample” means a sample which is taken from a waste stream.

V. “Grab sample” means a sample which is taken from a waste stream on a one-time basis with no regard to the flow in the waste stream and without consideration of time.

W. “Grease collection service” means any qualified company that specializes in cleaning grease interceptors and or hauling the grease to an approved waste site.

X. “Grease interceptor/trap (sometimes called separators)” for the purposes of this document means an interior multi-compartment device designed to retain grease from one or more fixtures; it shall be installed outside of the food service establishment and shall be of a size and design in compliance with all current Building and Plumbing codes adopted by the City.

Y. “Grease trap” for the purposes of this document means an exterior device designed to retain grease from one to a maximum of four fixtures.

Z. “Holding tank waste” means any waste from holding tanks such as vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers, septic, tanks and vacuum pump tank trucks.

AA. “Indirect discharge” means the discharge or the introduction of non-domestic pollutants from any source including those regulated under Section 307(b) or (c) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1317), into the POTW. The term indirect discharge also includes holding tank wastes discharged into the system.

AB. “Industrial user” means a source of indirect discharge which does not constitute a “discharge of pollutants” under regulations issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1342).

AC. “Industrial wastes” means the wastes from industrial processes including Zeolite type softening regeneration plants, and/or any material or substance handled, stored, transported, maintained or produced on-site that is deleterious to fish, plant life, animal life or public health.

AD. “Interference” means a discharge which, alone or in conjunction with other discharges,

inhibits or disrupts the POTW processes and which causes a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit. The term interference also means a discharge which, alone or in conjunction with other discharges, adversely affects the use or disposal of the POTW's sewage sludge or causes the POTW's sewage sludge to be in noncompliance with applicable federal, state, or local regulations. More specifically, the term includes prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal by the POTW in accordance with:

1. Section 405 of the Act, (33 U.S.C. 1345); or
2. Any criteria guidelines or regulations developed pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or more stringent state criteria applicable to the method of sludge disposal or use employed by the POTW.

AE. "Lateral" means the sewer pipeline conveying wastewater from the premises of a user to the City's sewer system. The term "lateral" includes the terms "building sewer" and "service lateral."

AF. "Lift station" means a sump used to allow sewage to accumulate to a level where it is pumped to sanitary sewer collection system at a higher elevation.

AG. "National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit" or "NPDES Permit" means the permit issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1342).

AH. "Manhole" means a hole, through which, a person may go to gain access to a sewer.

AI. "National Categorical Pretreatment Standard" or "Pretreatment Standard" means any regulation containing pollutant limits promulgated by the EPA in accordance with 40 CFR Plan I, Subplan N, Parts 407-471, and which applies to a specific category of industrial users.

AJ. "National Prohibitive Discharge Standard" or "Prohibitive Discharge Standard" means any regulation developed under the authority of Section 307(b) of the Act and 40 CFR, Section 403.5.

AK. "New source" means any building, structure, facility or installation from which there is or may be a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced after the publication of proposed Pretreatment Standards under Section 307(c) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1317) which will be applicable to such source if such Standards are thereafter promulgated in accordance with that section.

AL. "Pass through" means a discharge which exits the POTW into receiving waters in quantities which, alone or in conjunction with other discharges from another source, is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit.

AM. "Person" means any individual, partnership, firm, company, corporation, association,

joint stock company, trust, estate, governmental entity or any other legal entity, or their legal representative, agents or assigns. The masculine gender shall include the feminine, the singular shall include the plural where indicated by the context.

AN. “pH” means the logarithm (base 10) of the reciprocal of the concentration of hydrogen ion expressed in grams per liter of solution.

AO. “Pollutant” means any dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discharged equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, commercial or agricultural waste.

AP. “Pollution” means the manmade or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological or radiological integrity of water.

AQ. “POTW” means publicly owned treatment works.

AR. “Pretreatment” or “treatment” means the reduction of the amounts of pollutants, the concentration of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants or the alteration of the nature of the pollutant properties in wastewater to a less harmful state prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a POTW. The reduction or alteration can be obtained by physical, chemical or biological processes, or process changes or other means except as prohibited by 40 CFR Section 403.6(d).

AS. “Pretreatment requirements” means any substantive or procedural requirement related to pretreatment, other than a National Pretreatment Standard imposed on an industrial user.

AT. “Publicly owned treatment works” or “POTW” means a treatment works as defined by Section 212 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1292) which is owned in this instance by the City. This definition includes any sewers that convey wastewater to the POTW treatment plant, but does not include pipes, sewers or other conveyances not connected to a facility providing treatment. For the purposes of this plan, “POTW” also includes any sewers that convey wastewaters to the POTW from persons outside the City who are, by contract or agreement with the City, users of the City's POTW.

AU. “POTW treatment plant” means that portion of the POTW designed to provide treatment to wastewater.

AV. “Process of concern” for the purpose of the City’s Fats, Oils and Grease Control Program means any business that has fats, oils and grease on site or generally any business process that introduces material or matter into the wastewater.

AW. “Responsible Party” means a business owner, property owner, or resident at a commercial or residential property.

AX. "Sampling hole" means a hole through which a person may insert equipment to gather samples. A sampling hole may also be called a sampling tee.

AY. "Sanitary sewage" means the portion of sewage exclusive of industrial wastes and stormwaters.

AZ. "Sanitary sewer" means a sewer to which stormwaters, surface waters and groundwaters are not intentionally admitted.

BA. "Service lateral" (See "lateral").

BB. "Sewage" means water carrying wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments, together with such other waters as may be present, or any combination of such wastes and water. Also see "wastewater."

BC. "Sewage works" means all sewers and facilities operated for carrying, collecting, pumping, treating and disposing of sewage. The term "sewage works" also means the POTW.

BD. "Sewer" means all sewers and facilities operated for carrying sewage.

BE. "Shall" is mandatory; "may" is permissive.

BF. "Side sewer" means a connection with a service lateral from a house or other structure. "Side sewer" also means a building sewer.

BG. "Significant industrial user" means any industrial user of the City's wastewater disposal system who:

1. Has a discharge flow of 25,000 gallons or more per average workday, or
2. Has a flow greater than 5 percent of the flow in the City's wastewater treatment system, or
3. Has, in said user's wastes, toxic pollutants as defined pursuant to Section 307 of the Act, (State) statutes or rules, or
4. Is found by the City, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, or the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to have significant impact, either singularly or in combination with other contributing industries, on the wastewater treatment system, the quality of the POTW sludge, the system's effluent quality or air emissions generated by the system,
5. Is subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR 403.6

BH. "Significant noncompliance" means:

1. Any situation where there has been at least sixty-six percent (66%) noncompliance with pollutant discharge limits during a six-month period for the daily maximum or average limit for the same pollutant parameter;



2. Any situation where at least thirty-three percent (33%) of the measurements are:
    - (a) 1.2 times the daily maximum or average limit for the same toxic pollutant parameter, or
    - (b) 1.4 times the daily maximum or average limit for the same conventional pollutant parameter;
  3. Any discharge which results in the POTW's exercise of its emergency authority under 40 CFR 403.8(f)(1)(vi)(B) to halt the discharge;
  4. Discharges determined to cause interference with, or pass through, the POTW or which pose an imminent endangerment to human health;
  5. Ninety (90) days of noncompliance with a compliance schedule construction or compliance deadline;
  6. Thirty (30) days of noncompliance with a reporting requirement;
  7. Inaccurate reporting; or
  8. Other violations which the City DPW Commissioner determines will adversely affect the operation of the POTW.
- BI. "Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)" means a classification pursuant to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual issued by the Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget, 1972.
- BJ. "Standard specifications" means the document entitled "Sanitary Sewer Specifications." This document includes the specifications and drawings to be used in design and construction of laterals and sewers.
- BK. "State" means the State (Commonwealth) of Massachusetts
- BL. "Storm ditch" means an open conduit which carries stormwater and surface water but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.
- BM. "Storm sewers or storm drains" means a sewer which carries stormwater and surface water but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.
- BN. "Stormwater" means any flow occurring during or following any form of natural precipitation and resulting there from.
- BO. "Suspended solids" means the total suspended matter that floats on the surface of, or is suspended in, water, wastewater or other liquids, and which is removable by laboratory filtering.
- BP. "Toxic pollutant" means any pollutant or combination of pollutants listed as toxic in regulations promulgated by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under the provisions of Section 307(a) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1317) or other Acts.

- BQ. "User" means any person who causes or permits a discharge of wastewater into the City's POTW. The term user includes commercial and industrial entities which discharge wastewater into the City's POTW.
- BR. "Wastewater" means the liquid and water-carried industrial or domestic wastes from dwellings, commercial buildings, industrial facilities and institutions, together which may be present, whether treated or untreated, which is contributed into or permitted to enter the POTW. Also see "sewage."
- BS. "Water softener" means a unit using the ion-exchange process requiring sodium chloride ion to regenerate the exchange bed.
- BT. "Waters of the state" means all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, reservoirs, aquifers, irrigation systems, drainage systems and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon the state or any portion thereof.

#### **IV. General Prohibitions**

A. No person shall contribute or cause to be contributed, directly or indirectly, any pollutant or wastewater which will pass through the POTW or interfere with the operation or performance of the POTW. These general prohibitions apply to all such users of the POTW whether or not the user is subject to National Categorical Pretreatment Standards or any other national, state or local pretreatment standards or requirements. A user may not use dilution to achieve compliance and may not contribute the following substances to the POTW:

1. Any liquids, solids or gases which by reason of their nature or quantity are, or may be, sufficient either alone or by interaction with other substances to cause fire or explosion or to be injurious in any other way to the POTW or to the operation of the POTW. At no time, shall two successive readings on an explosion hazard meter, at the point of discharge into the system (or at any point in the system) be more than five percent (5%) nor any single reading over ten percent (10%) of the lower explosive limit (LEL) of the meter. Prohibited materials include, but are not limited to, gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, ethers, alcohols, ketones, aldehydes, peroxides, chlorates, perchlorates, bromates, carbides, hydrides and sulfides;
2. Solid or viscous substances which may cause obstruction to the flow in a sewer or other interference with the operation of the wastewater treatment facilities such as, but not limited to: grease, garbage with particles greater than one-half inch (1/2") in any dimension, animal guts or tissues, paunch manure, bones, hair, hides or fleshings, entrails, whole blood, feathers, ashes, cinders, sand, spent lime, stone or marble dust, metal, glass, straw, shavings, grass clippings, rags, spent grains, spent hops, waste paper, wood, plastics, gas, tar, asphalt residues, residues from

refining, or processing of fuel or lubricating oil, mud or glass grinding or polishing wastes.

3. Specifically excluded from the sewers are waste products resulting from the handling, storage and sale of fruits and vegetables from other than retail produce establishments, or other foods not intended primarily for immediate consumption;

4. Any wastewater having:

- (a) a pH less than 5.0;
- (b) a pH greater than 9.5, unless a City permit is obtained;
- (c) any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and/or personnel of the POTW is also prohibited;

5. Any wastewater containing toxic pollutants in sufficient quantity, either singularly or by interaction with other pollutants, to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the POTW, or to exceed the limitation set forth in the Categorical Pretreatment Standard. A toxic pollutant shall include, but not be limited to any pollutant identified pursuant to Section 307(a) of the Act;

6. Any noxious or malodorous liquids, gases or solids which either singularly or by interaction with other wastes are sufficient to prevent entry into the sewers for maintenance and repair;

7. Any substance which may cause the POTW's effluent or any other product of the POTW such as residues, sludges, scums or gases, to be unsuitable for reclamation and reuse or to interfere with the reclamation process. In no case, shall a substance discharged to the POTW cause the POTW to be in noncompliance with sludge use or disposal criteria, guidelines or regulations developed under Section 405 of the Act, any criteria, guidelines or regulations affecting sludge use or disposal developed pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or state criteria applicable to the sludge management method being used;

8. Any waters or wastes which:

- (a) Contain more than 100 mg/l of fat, oil or grease;
- (b) Have a BOD greater than 922 mg/l; or
- (c) Contain more than 660 mg/l of suspended solids;

9. Any substance which will cause the POTW to violate its NPDES Permit or the receiving water quality standards;

10. Any wastewater with objectionable color not removed in the treatment process, such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions;

11. Any wastewater having a temperature which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW treatment plant resulting in interference, but in no case wastewater with a temperature at the introduction into the POTW which exceeds 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit);
12. Any pollutants, including oxygen-demanding pollutants (BOD, etc.) released at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which a user knows or has reason to know will cause interference with the POTW;
13. Any wastewater containing any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half life or concentration as may exceed the limits established by the state or federal regulatory agency applicable to the POTW user;
14. Any wastewater which causes a hazard to human life or creates a public nuisance;
15. Any water or wastes with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit (60 degrees Celsius);
16. Any water or wastes containing petroleum oil, nonbiogradable cutting oil, or products of mineral origin in amounts that:
  - a. Exceeds a maximum daily limit of 5 ppm of total petroleum hydrocarbons;
  - b. Will cause interference with the operation of the POTW or will pass through the POTW.
17. Any water or wastes that result in toxic gases, fumes, or vapors in a quantity capable of causing worker health and safety problems;
18. Any water or wastes which have been trucked or hauled into the City, except when the wastes are discharged at points designated by the City DPW Commissioner;
19. Any water or wastes containing a hazardous waste as such term is defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. (Title 42, U.S.C. Sections 6901 et seq.).

## **V. Fats, Oils and Grease Program (FOG)**

### **A. Grease and Oil Interceptors & Separators:**

1. Fats, Oils, and Grease separators and grease interceptors shall be provided, at the user's expense, where, in the opinion of the City DPW Commissioner, or a designated representative, they are necessary for the proper handling of wastes

containing these substances in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes or harmful ingredients. All grease interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the City Plumbing Inspector, and shall be located so as to be readily and easily accessible for inspection and cleaning. (NOTE: Refer to this plan, sections V and VI for which type of grease trap or grease interceptor applies to the process of concern which can impact the city's sanitary sewer collection system).

2. Fats, Oils, and Grease separators and grease interceptors shall be constructed of impervious materials capable of withstanding abrupt and extreme changes of temperature. They shall be of substantial construction and equipped with easily removable covers.

3. Where installed, all Fats, Oils and Grease traps or grease interceptors shall be maintained and in continuous efficient operation at all times.

B. When designated by the DPW Commissioner, these facilities must have an Industrial User Permit. The permittee shall allow City personnel right of entry at all reasonable times to all parts of the premises for the purpose of inspection, sampling, records examination and copying, or other performance of their duties (Sewer Use Ordinance Section 19.28).

C. Best Management Practices shall be followed as in Section VII.

D. Fees, charges and penalties for violation of the ordinance are set forth in Section XII.

E. Dishwashers and food grinders are prohibited from discharging through the Grease Trap pursuant to the Massachusetts Plumbing Code.

F. A grease collection service shall be required for all facilities that generate FOG.

G. If significant grease accumulation (e.g. a partial blockage) is found downstream or if significant grease wicking is found upstream of the process of concern, an inspection of the facility may result. The inspection will include a review of the grease management program, treatment system, waste storage area, and drains not flowing to treatment system. BMP's not in place, hauler receipts for prior 3 years not available, and/or training documents not current may incur future inspections with an assessed fee as published in the City's fee schedule (see Section XII).

H. If a business is shown to be the cause of a grease related sewer overflow, the facility will be responsible for the cost of the clean-up as set forth in Section XII.

## **VI. Administration of FOG Program**

The City shall administer a FOG program which is intended to prevent fats, oils, grease,

and other substances which are likely to block or create a hazard within the sewerage system from entering the system through use of grease interceptors or grease traps. The City may require any non-domestic user to install a grease interceptor or grease trap according to the guidelines set forth in the City's Sanitary Sewer Specifications or other program prior to connection to the City or at any time after connection to the City if the City discovers or determines subsequent to the connection that the building, facility, or operation of that user produces a waste with characteristics that would require installation of a grease trap or grease interceptor pursuant to this Ordinance. The installation of a proper grease interceptor or grease trap device shall be the responsibility of the parcel owner and the entity which applies for the connection or industrial user permit, and the owner/proprietor of the business or entity whose operations cause or contribute to the necessity for a grease interceptor or grease traps. The City shall determine whether a grease trap, grease interceptor, or other interceptor is required on a case-by-case basis based on an evaluation of objective criteria including but not limited to factors such as those listed hereunder:

- A. The type of facility (a restaurant, bakery, cheese factory, yogurt shop, gas station, lube facility, etc.)
- B. The volume of the user's business or operation (such as number of meals served, number of seats, hours of operation).
- C. Size and nature of facilities (including kitchen facilities) based on size, type, number of fixtures, and type of processing or cooking equipment used.
- D. The type of service provided or operation undertaken (such as dine-in meal service versus carry-out meal service).
- E. The type of foods or other materials used in the cooking, processing, or manufacturing operations carried on within the user's facility.
- F. The overall potential for grease-laden, flammable, or sand-laden discharges.
- G. The existence of devices, procedures, or processes which are designed to minimize the amount of grease, sand, oil, or other flammable liquids from entering the sewer system.

The design, location, and procedures for operation of a required grease interceptor or grease trap shall be approved by the City. Such approval shall be obtained prior to the user's connection of the facility to the City's sewerage system, in the event of new construction or remodeling. In instances where a user has already connected and the City determines that a grease interceptor or grease trap must be installed, the user shall promptly provide for the installation of the grease interceptor or grease trap within a reasonable time frame (as may be set by the City), including providing such design plans and operational plans as may be required. The installation of a grease interceptor or grease trap as required by this Plan on an existing user facility shall occur within reasonable time not to exceed one hundred (100) days after the user has been provided

notice of the requirement that a grease interceptor or grease trap be installed. This one-hundred-day limit may only be extended by written agreement of the City.

## **VII. Grease Interceptor Maintenance Procedures and Program**

Any user who is required by the City and/or this Plan to install and/or operate a grease interceptor or grease trap device, shall be required to adequately maintain the grease interceptor or grease trap device so that such device is in proper working order at all times. Grease and oil interceptors shall be cleaned by a licensed and permitted waste hauler on a periodic basis so as to assure that the grease interceptor will operate as designed at all times. Any users who are required to install or have in operation a grease interceptor or grease trap pursuant to this Plan, shall be required to have a plan of operation or program for their facility which is intended to ensure that the grease interceptor or grease traps operates as designed to prevent grease, oil, sand, or other harmful constituents from entering the sewerage system. These procedures may include adoption of kitchen practices to minimize the grease-laden garbage which ultimately enters the facility's drains and floor traps and/or other such procedures as may be required for the proper operation of the grease interceptors.

A. Grease interceptors shall be cleaned out completely by a FOG collection service as necessary to assure that the grease interceptor will operate as designed at all times or as otherwise specified by the Administrative Authority.

B. Decanting or discharging of removed waste back into the grease interceptor, for the purpose of reducing the volume to be hauled, is prohibited.

C. The use of additives, directly or indirectly to the plumbing or sewer system, to emulsify grease and/or oil, is specifically prohibited.

D. The use of biological additives as a supplement to grease interceptor maintenance, including the addition of micro-organisms, may be authorized by the City DPW Commissioner; approval shall be obtained (in writing) prior to the use of such additives.

E. Maintenance records indicating date of service, volume pumped, name of waste hauler and waste disposal location for each pumping of the grease interceptor are to be kept for a minimum of three years. The records are to be provided to the Administrative Authority or an Authorized Inspector when requested during normal business hours.

F. All waste removed from a grease interceptor must be disposed at a facility permitted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or other applicable regulatory agencies to receive such waste. The pumped out FOG shall not be returned to the public sewer system or manhole, nor any private wastewater system, nor storm drains.

G. Any fixture connected to a grease interceptor shall have a non-removable, secured food strainer of such integrity so as to withstand daily operational usage.

## **VIII. Best Management Practices**

A. Drain Screens. After January 1, 2008, drain screens shall be installed on all drainage pipes for all new food service establishments deemed by the City DPW Commissioner to generate FOG.

B. Waste fats, oils and grease (FOG):

1. All waste FOG shall be collected and stored properly in recycling barrels, drums, or bins.
2. Such recycling barrels, drums, or bins, shall be maintained appropriately to ensure they do not leak and enter the city's storm water collection system by direct discharge or by commingling with rainwater.
3. A licensed collection service must be used to dispose of waste FOG.

C. Food waste. All food waste shall be disposed of directly into the trash or garbage, and not in sinks.

D. Employee training:

1. Employees of the food service establishment shall be trained within 3 months after ordinance passes, and twice each calendar year thereafter, on the following subjects:
  - (a) How to "dry wipe" pots, pans, dishware, and work areas before washing to remove FOG.
  - (b) How to properly dispose of food waste and solids in enclosed plastic bags prior to disposal in trash bins or containers to prevent leaking and odors.
  - (c) The location and use of absorption products to clean under fryers, and other locations where grease may be spilled or dripped.
2. Training shall be documented and employee signatures retained indicating each employee's attendance and understanding of the practices.
3. Training records shall be available for review at any reasonable time by the Authorized Inspector.

E. Kitchen exhaust filters shall be cleaned as frequently as necessary to be maintained in good operating condition.

F. All best management practices shall be posted conspicuously in the food preparation and dishwashing areas, and process areas at all times.



## **IX. Grease Separators (traps) for treating Fats, Oils and Grease wastes**

- A. Facilities that have FOG, but are not required to have a grease interceptor, must have an adequate sized grease trap as determined by the City Plumbing Inspector.
- B. Required connections to grease traps: all three compartment sinks, scullery (preparation) sinks, and pre-wash sinks at dishwashing stations.
- C. Prohibited connections or additives to grease traps:
  - 1. Final rinse discharge from automatic dishwashers/sanitizers shall not be connected to the grease trap.
  - 2. Chemical additives, such as chlorinated solvents, or any other additives that causes the emulsification of grease, are strictly prohibited from use in any grease trap.
- D. Maintenance of the grease trap shall be as often as required to maintain it in an efficient operating condition.
- E. For ease of inspection and maintenance, the area around the grease trap must be kept free of storage and the top of the grease trap must not be bolted down.
- F. A check-off log for the maintenance of the grease trap must be kept for a minimum of three years and must be provided at the request of the City of Taunton.

## **X. Grease Interceptors for Treating Fats, Oils and Grease Wastes**

- A. Exterior grease interceptors shall be required for new food handling facilities constructed after January 1, 2008.
- B. Grease interceptors are required for food handling facilities that generate FOG when there is remodeling, additions, alterations, or repairs valued at or greater than what is specified in the City's current fee schedule.
- C. Effective January 1, 2008, those food handling facilities operating without a grease interceptor shall, within six (6) months of written notification by the City DPW Commissioner, be required to install a grease interceptor if the City DPW Commissioner determines that the food service Establishment is not following the Food Handling Facility Requirements set forth in sections VIII and IX, or that the food service establishment has caused or contributed to a collection system blockage resulting in maintenance requirements and/or sewage spills.
- D. All new grease interceptors shall be designed, constructed and installed in accordance with the current Building and Plumbing Codes adopted by the City and shall be subject to approval by the Building Department.

E. All submitted drawings shall be prepared by a licensed and registered professional engineer. Any false information or misleading calculations submitted shall be the responsibility of the user.

F. All grease interceptors shall be located so as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning, inspection, and removal of intercepted wastes.

G. A common grease interceptor shared by multiple businesses can be utilized if specifically authorized by the City DPW Commissioner and upon evidence of legal operating and maintenance agreements between the involved property owners.

H. All grease interceptors shall include an effluent sample box and a sanitary tee located on the discharge side of the sample box of a type and size approved by the Administrative Authority.

I. Inspection by the Administrative Authority, or an Authorized Inspector, of installed grease interceptors and piping prior to backfilling is required. Piping shall meet the requirements of the current Building and Plumbing Codes adopted by the City.

J. Grease interceptors shall have a clean-out installed after the sample box on the private lateral as required by the current Building and Plumbing Codes adopted by the City.

K. Required connections to grease interceptors: all three compartment sinks, scullery (preparation) sinks, floor drains and mop sinks along the cook line, pre-wash sinks at dishwashing stations, and all other fixtures that contribute grease into the wastewater system.

L. No food service establishment or other identified user shall construct, remodel or convert a grease interceptor without the approval by the Administrative Authority.

M. Prohibited connections or additives to grease interceptors:

1. Final rinse discharge from automatic dishwashers/sanitizers shall not be connected to the grease interceptor.
2. The use of any additive such as surfactants or chemicals shall not be connected to any type of grease interceptor. Chemical additives, such as chlorinated solvents, or any other additives that causes the emulsification of grease, are strictly prohibited from use in any type of grease interceptor.

## **XI. Waivers for treating Fats, Oils and Grease wastes**

A. A food handling facility, or business with a process of concern determined to have no immediate adverse impact on the collection system because of business type may be granted a waiver from grease trap or grease interceptor installation requirements.

B. The City DPW Commissioner may, at any time, revoke a waiver and require the food handling facility to install a grease interceptor.

C. A grease trap or grease interceptor may not be required for business types listed below:

1. Facilities serving only beverages.
2. Facilities serving beverages and/or ready to eat, packaged or unpackaged items (with or without food warming).
3. Ice cream parlors without any baking or other food preparation.
4. Snack bars with no food preparation other than food warming.
5. Bakeries with no food preparation other than food warming.
6. Other facilities serving only ready-to-eat foods with or without food warming.

## **XII. Enforcement of Fats, Oils, and Grease Program**

Failure of any user who is required to maintain a grease interceptor or grease trap pursuant to this Plan and/or pursuant to lawful City direction, shall be subject to each of the enforcement provisions set forth in this Plan. The enforcement provisions of this Plan shall apply to the failure to instruct personnel, or to maintain, pump, and/or institute a proper grease or flammable substance reduction program.

## **XIII. Fees and Charges**

A. Fats, Oils and Grease Program fees:

1. Sampling Fee as published in the City's current fee schedule.
2. Inspection Fees and re-inspection fee, as published in the City's current Fee Schedule.
3. Enforcement Actions (Fines for non-compliance as specified in the City's Sewer Use Ordinance and Industrial Pretreatment Program Enforcement Response Plan)

B. When grease is found in the sewer line: All food handling facilities or businesses, with processes of concern in the area, shall be inspected and/or videoed by the City. No fee for inspection will be assessed, unless the violations found are significant (inspector's discretion):

1. Any violation found will generate a re-inspection. The Inspection will examine:
  - (a) Grease management program
  - (b) Hauler receipts
  - (c) Training documents
2. Treatment System will be opened to inspect for:
  - (a) BMP violations
  - (b) Plumbing code violations
  - (c) Drains not flowing to the treatment on site
  - (d) Grease in lines

- (e) Waste Storage Area
- (f) Grease Containers
- (g) Garbage Containers
- (h) Ground Contamination

C. Cost of Inspecting and issuing Notice of Violation (NOV) will be assessed as published in the City's current fee schedule.

D. Cost of re-inspection for one violation will be assessed as published in the City's current fee schedule.

E. Cost of re-inspection for any additional violations will be assessed as published in the City's current fee schedule.

F. Blockages determined to be caused by FOG and associated with a responsible party with evidence (i.e. televised recording of the source lateral), shall pay the city for the costs it incurred (equipment and personnel hours plus additional costs if lift stations are impacted with the subject FOG) to clear the line plus 10% when it is the second incident. The responsible party shall be warned subsequent to the first incident of their financial responsibility to the city. The responsible party shall also be liable for all incidental damage to all public and private property resulting from the blockage.

G. All fees, charges and penalties are due by the property owner.

H. Other fees as the City may deem necessary to carry out the requirements contained in this plan.